

cean bones were presented by the latter and C. W. Matthews. Other fossil specimens were presented by Col. James Greer, Wm. M. Gabb, Mr. Hornbush, W. Morrison, A. H. Smith, Dr. J. Leconte, T. H. Streets, T. Guilford Smith, Enoch L. Johnson, Louis Godey, P. T. Tyson and George Davidson.

Minerals.—A small collection was presented by T. Guilford Smith. Specimens were also received from Alexander E. Dougherty, J. Blodget Britton, C. W. Matthews, Joseph Wilcox, J. Lawrence Smith, Isaac Lea, John L. LeConte, George Davidson, T. D. Rand, P. W. Sheaffer, Capt. J. Barclay, Mr. Tyson, W. McKee Mason, W. L. Mactier and Joseph Leidy. A few others were also obtained in exchange.

Botany.—A series of Junci representing the monograph of Dr. Engleman, and a series of Potamogeton, collected by Dr. J. W. Robbins, were presented by Mr. E. Durand. A rare fern was presented by Mr. Redfield.

Comparative Anatomy.—A skull of *Hyperaodon bidens* and other portions of the skeleton, from Newport R. I., were presented by Samuel Powel. An artificially elongated human skull from the vicinity of Lake Titicaca, Bolivia, was presented by Dr. J. M. Greene, U. S. N. A collection of bones of the Bison, Wolf, Deer, &c., was presented by Prof. Hayden. Remains of Indian skeletons were presented by Prof. Cope; the jaw of a Dolphin and several teeth of the Sperm Whale, by Dr. Rijgersma, and portions of human muscles with *Trichinæ*, by Dr. J. S. Hough.

Miscellaneous.—Nine jars of vertebrates from St. Martins, W. I., were presented by Dr. Rijgersma. Seven specimens were presented by Prof. S. D. Gross, and several by unknown donors.

Respectfully submitted by

JOSEPH LEIDY,

Chairman of the Curators.

REPORT OF THE ORNITHOLOGICAL COMMITTEE.

The Committee begs leave to report that the following named donations to the collection of birds have been made during the year 1869 :

March.—2 specimens of *Lagopus mutus*, 1 specimen of *Lagopus islandorum*, presented by D. G. Elliott. 1 specimen of *Accipiter Cooperii*, presented by Mr. Haines.

April.—A specimen of *Aythya Americana*, (variety), 1 specimen of *Corvus Americanus*, (albino), 1 specimen of *Cairina moschata*, 1 specimen of *Gracula musica*, presented by Jno. Krider. 2 specimens of *Picus albolarvatus*, ♂ ♀ presented by Wm. P. Turnbull. 1 specimen of *Lophophorus impeyanus*, ♂ presented by J. L. Scott.

May.—Sundry specimens in alcohol, presented by E. D. Cope. 1 mounted specimen of *Larus argentatus*, presented by H. E. Molé. 6 mounted specimens (5 species) of birds from St. Martins, W. D., presented by H. E. Van Rijgersma.

July.—A mounted specimen of *Aquila chrysetos*, presented by F. L. Altemus. And a collection of skins from Port Natal, Africa, presented by S. A. Grout.

August.—Collection of 30 specimens of skins from St. Domingo, presented by Wm. M. Gabb.

October.—Collection of eggs from Sable Island, presented by J. R. Millis.

December.—21 specimens of skins from St. Domingo, presented by Wm. M. Gabb.

The Committee would further state, that since last spring the work of over-1869.]

looking and poisoning the entire collection of birds has been going on, and is now nearly completed. Almost every mounted bird has been examined, disinfected and the cases cleaned. It was found that there was no time to lose in this work, as many specimens had been attacked by insects, and further delay might have occasioned the loss of a portion of our collection which could probably never be replaced. The remaining cases will soon be gone through.

The Committee cannot too strongly urge the necessity of such an examination being made, if not *annually*, at least once in two years, even should it involve some expense to the Academy to secure the preservation of the best collection of birds on this continent, and, with one exception, the largest in the world.

By permission and special vote of the Academy, a duplicate specimen of the rare egg of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*) was presented to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. In addition to some rare and valuable bird skins this Institution intends giving us from late expeditions to Alaska and the North-West, there is being made up for this Academy a collection of eggs, many of value and interest, procured mostly from Arctic America. But we are badly off for a place to put them, the present cabinets of eggs being nearly full and in too dark a room to be of any use for study. We would, therefore, ask that some appropriation be made for additional cabinets, and also that the whole be placed in a more suitable part of the building.

The Committee recommends that permission be given to sell (or exchange) the *duplicate* bird skins packed away in chests and drawers, some now injured by insects, and which, in a few years, may become seriously damaged; the proceeds of such sales to be appropriated to the purchase of specimens wanted, and that might be procured in this way, and especially of newly discovered species, our additions to which, for the last five or six years, have been far behind other Ornithological Museums in this country and elsewhere, and consequently has brought our collection to a comparative stand still.

The Committee would also call attention to that portion of the Library devoted to Ornithology. Since the death of the late Dr. Wilson, only such books on the subject then going on in parts, and for which he made appropriation, have been continued, thereby causing some leading periodicals and other works to be dropped, thus impairing the value of the whole as a Library of reference. Very many important books published during the last few years are wanted, and to keep up with the present state of Ornithological Science throughout the world, it is necessary that students should be able to refer to the latest and best authors.

Respectfully submitted.

BERNARD A. HOOPES, *Chairman.*
WM. P. TURNBULL,
EDWIN SHEPPARD.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28th, 1869.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian respectfully reports that the number of additions to the Library from January to December, 1869, inclusive, amounts to 1131.

Of these 185 were volumes, and 946 pamphlets and parts of periodicals.

They were derived from the following sources:

Societies, 440; Editors, 200; Authors, 102; Wilson Fund, 177; Library Fund, 76; purchased, 51; Norwegian Government, 13; Geo. W. Tryon, Jr., 10; Jos. Jeanes, 8; Treasury Department, 8; Publishers, 6; Minister of Public Works in France, 6; John Warner, 4; Isaac Lea, 4; Messrs Townsend and Adams, 7; Smithsonian Inst., 3; M. de Caligay, 4; Surgeon General, 1; J. D. Whitney, 1; General Humphreys, 1; Thos. Meehan, 1; Department of Educa-

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